

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Maxine C. Thorne et al.

Serial No.: 09/929,827

Filed: August 14, 2001

Docket No.: P147.102.101

Title: LIGHT GUARD

on a first edge of the second body half wherein the projection is configured to slidably engage the hole; and

at least one projection disposed on a second edge of the second body half and a hole disposed on a second edge of the first body half wherein the projection is configured to slidably engage the hole.

3. (Previously Cancelled)

4. The guard of claim 2 wherein the means for removably securing further comprises:

at least one clasp disposed on the first edge of the first body half and configured for slidably engaging a portion of the first edge of the second body half; and

at least one clasp disposed on the second edge of the second body half and configured for slidably engaging a portion of the second edge of the first body half.

5. (Previously Cancelled)

6. The guard of claim 1 wherein the means for removably securing includes a first portion disposed on an edge of the first body half and a second portion disposed on an edge of the second body half wherein the first portion and the second portion comprise at least one or more of a clasp, a pin, a hole, a beveled protrusion, a projection, a hook and loop fastener, a mechanical fastener, and a clip.

7. (Previously Cancelled)

8. The guard of claim 1 wherein the base flange of each frame half has a generally semi-annular shape and includes at least one slot extending radially outward from a generally circular shaped, inner edge of the base flange, the slot being disposed at generally right angle relative to a side edge of the base flange so that when respective side edges of the two frame halves are joined

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together the slot of the first body half and the slot of the second body half are aligned diametrically opposed to each other and aligned generally parallel to each other.

9. The guard of claim 1 wherein each body includes a bottom edge having a generally semi-circular shape so that when the two body halves are joined together, the bottom edge forms a generally circular access hole for accessing a light bulb enclosed by the light guard.

10. The guard of claim 1 wherein the base flange has a generally circular shape with a generally circular-shaped central hole.

11. (Amended) A method of guarding a light source mounted in a light socket fixture comprising:

providing a frame having a first half, a second half, and means for releasably securing the two frame halves relative to each other, with each frame half including a base portion and a body portion with the body portion including a plurality of support members, and

securing the base portion of the frame between a base of a light socket fixture and a building

mounting surface, to be in contact with the building mounting surface, to cause the body portion of the frame, which extends generally perpendicularly relative to the base portion of the frame, to extend in a spaced relationship alongside and about the light source.

12. A method of guarding a light source mounted in a light socket fixture comprising:

removably securing a first base portion of a frame between the light socket fixture and a fixed mounting surface, and to be in contact against both the light fixture and the fixed mounting surface, to cause a first body portion of the frame, which extends generally perpendicularly relative to the base portion of the frame, to extend in a spaced relationship generally parallel to and about the light source;

removably securing a second base portion of the frame between the light socket fixture

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The Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' Representative, Paul Grunzweig at (763) 878-0099 at the below-listed telephone number if there are any questions regarding this response.

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